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Applicant: Lorin R. DeBonte et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 07148-063003 / CGL99/0007US11

Serial No.: 09/771,904 Filed: January 29, 2001

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Amendments to the Claims:

No claims were amended herein. A list of claims and their status is provided below.

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a full length delta-12 fatty acid desaturase coding sequence having at least one mutation in a region of said sequence encoding a His-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-His amino acid motif, wherein said at least one mutation renders the product of said desaturase gene non-functional and wherein said sequence includes said at least one mutation.
- 2. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein said at least one mutation comprises a mutation in a region of said sequence encoding a His-Glu-Cys-Gly-His (SEQ ID NO:60) amino acid motif.
- 3. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid fragment of claim 2, wherein said at least one mutation in said sequence introduces a non-conservative amino acid substitution in said motif.
- 4.-46. (Cancelled)
- 47. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein said at least one mutation in said sequence introduces a deletion of one or more amino acids in said motif.
- 48. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 47, wherein said at least one mutation in said sequence introduces a deletion of one amino acid in said motif.
- 49. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein said at least one mutation in said sequence introduces an insertion of one or more amino acids in said motif.

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50. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 49, wherein said at least one mutation in said sequence introduces an insertion of one amino acid in said motif.

- 51. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 3, wherein said at least one mutation in said motif comprises a substitution of a codon encoding Lys for the codon encoding Glu.
- 52. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 51, wherein said coding sequence encodes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:12.
- 53. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 52, wherein said sequence is SEQ ID NO:11.
- 54. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 3, wherein said sequence encodes a microsomal gene product.